

concerns, including small businesses, small socially and economically disadvantaged persons, women-owned businesses, labor surplus area concerns, and workshops operated by the blind and other severely handicapped persons. The office also conducts outreach, liaison, source listings, and seminars for small and disadvantaged businesses and coordinates and promotes procurement programs and policies.

§ 105-53.131 Office of Inspector General.

(a) *Creation and authority.* Public Law 95-452, known as the Inspector General Act of 1978, consolidated existing audit and investigation functions and established an Office of Inspector General in 11 major domestic departments and agencies, including GSA. Each office is headed by an Inspector General appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b) *Functions.* The Office of Inspector General is responsible for policy direction and conduct of audit, inspection, and investigation activities relating to programs and operations of GSA; and maintaining liaison with other law enforcement agencies, the Department of Justice, and United States Attorneys on all matters relating to the detection and prevention of fraud and abuse. The Inspector General reports semiannually to the Congress through the Administrator concerning fraud, abuses, other serious problems, and deficiencies of agency programs and operations; recommends corrective action; and reports on progress made in implementing these actions.

§ 105-53.132 GSA Board of Contract Appeals.

(a) *Creation and Authority.* The GSA Board of Contract Appeals (GSBCA), headed by the Chairman, GSA Board of Contract Appeals, was established on February 28, 1979, by the Administrator of General Services as an independent administrative/judicial tribunal under the provisions of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-563). The Board was granted additional authority pursuant to the Brooks Act, 40 U.S.C. 759(f) (Pub. L. 99-591).

(b) *Functions.* The GSBCA hears, considers, and decides disputes between

contractors and GSA and other executive departments, agencies, and commissions under the provisions of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978, the "Disputes" clause of contracts, and in connection with contract related claims. The Board furnishes hearing examiners for the Suspension and Debarment Board which serves as the factfinder in suspension and proposed debarment matters. The Suspension and Debarment Board provides the suspending official with a determination as to whether adequate evidence exists to support the cause for suspension, delivers written findings of fact to the debarring official which resolve any facts in dispute based on a preponderance of the evidence and determines whether a cause for debarment exists. The Board also serves as an ad hoc body convened to consider any other type of dispute, including appeals involving violations of post-Federal employment restrictions pursuant to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978. Additionally, the Board hears, considers, and decides ADP protests by interested parties pursuant to the Brooks Act, 40 U.S.C. 759(f).

(c) *Regulations.* Regulations pertaining to GSBCA programs are published in 41 CFR part 5A-60. Information on availability of the regulations is provided in § 105-53.116.

[48 FR 25200, June 6, 1983, as amended at 53 FR 23761, June 24, 1988]

§ 105-53.133 Information Security Oversight Office.

(a) *Creation and authority.* The Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO), headed by the Director of ISOO, who is appointed by the Administrator with the approval of the President, was established by the Administrator on November 20, 1978, under the provisions of Executive Order 12065. Effective August 1, 1982, this authority is based upon Executive Order 12356, which superseded E.O. 12065.

(b) *Functions.* ISOO oversees and ensures, under the general policy direction of the National Security Council, Government-wide implementation of the information security program established by Executive order.